

CHALLENGE



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TO END POLICE TERROR, REVOLT!



Beware of liberal bosses

Workers of the world must beware of liberal police reforms that try to lull us into thinking the police state we live in can be reformed. Following an inspiring summer of struggle we have seen liberal politicians try to appease our calls for revolution with crumbs. Undoubtedly cops will remain prepared to carry out organized violence in a determined effort to suppress any workers' strikes; suppress any large-scale, bold student protests fighting for progressive demands; and suppress any powerful movements which seriously challenge the racial inequities that lie at the heart of capitalism. Capitalist rulers need racist police terror, intimidation, and terror to maintain their power over us. The system is designed this way.

Instead of begging the rulers to change their ways, we must overthrow them.

To do this, we need to build a revolutionary, anti-racist, working class party that takes aim at the entire structure and system of capitalism. A broad movement led by PLP can bring revolution to replace the existing racist capitalist system with a communist system.

A system of working class equality and antiracism in which we can creatively work to meet our class's needs rather than slaving to make big profits for capitalists. Overcoming liberal illusions about the capitalist system, by millions of workers and youth, can open the way for a communist future!

ANNAPOLIS, MD—Chants and demands rang out in Maryland's state capital as over 150 protesters, with support from 90 mass organizations, marched on the Annapolis statehouse. The collective of the Maryland Coalition for Justice and Police Accountability had high hopes that a bill repealing the Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights (LEOBR) would finally pass but as is the case with many reform struggles, these hopes came crashing down as multiple amendments obliterated demands. Progressive Labor Party (PLP) joined the voices calling out the legislative betrayal of the working class and chanted: "only communist revolution will break our chains." We can't reform away racism that's integral to this profit system's survival.

PLP has been working with the coalition to end racist police terror and murder for years now. Several PLP members who also work with Communi-

ty Justice in Prince George's County and the West Wednesday Coalition in Baltimore attended the march, distributing copies of CHALLENGE.

Our message to workers: ending police terror and murder requires a revolutionary overthrow of the whole damn system—appealing to the legislature will never free the working class. Pandering politicians represent and manage this racist capitalist system.

A history of racism, masked as reforms

Following the passage of the National Fair Housing Act in the 1970s, Black workers moved into Prince George's County. As the population grew more integrated, the government established the racist LEOBR, providing a free pass for the klan-in-blue. Since its establishment, LEOBR has inspired

similar measures in surrounding counties, giving cops extra protection whenever they are charged with excessive force and murder.

LEOBR has been the focal point of antiracist protests for over 30 years. However, despite growing awareness of racist murders and attacks at the hands of the police, minimal reforms were granted only after the Baltimore uprising against Freddie Gray's murder.

The insulting reform simply reduced the time that cops can refuse interrogation from 10 to five days. Of course, five days is plenty of time for a racist murderer, emboldened by the system, to "get stories straight," tamper with evidence, and evade accountability.

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OUR FIGHT

- ★Progressive Labor Party (PLP) fights to destroy capitalism and the dictatorship of the capitalist class. We organize workers, soldiers and youth into a revolutionary movement for communism.
- ★The dictatorship of the working class — communism—can provide a lasting solution to the disaster that is today’s world for billions of people. This cannot be done through electoral politics, but requires a revolutionary movement and a mass Red Army led by PLP.
- ★Worldwide capitalism, in its relentless drive for profit, inevitably leads to war, fascism, poverty, disease, starvation and environmental destruction. The capitalist class, through its state power — governments, armies, police, schools and culture — maintains a dictatorship over the world’s workers. The capitalist dictatorship supports, and is supported by, the anti-working-class ideologies of racism, sexism, nationalism, individualism and religion.
- ★While the bosses and their mouthpieces claim “communism is dead,” capitalism is the real failure for billions worldwide. Capitalism returned to Russia and China because socialism retained many aspects of the profit system, like wages and privileges. Russia and China did not establish communism.
- ★Communism means working collectively to build a worker-run society. We will abolish work for wages, money and profits. While capitalism needs unemployment, communism needs everyone to contribute and share in society’s benefits and burdens.
- ★Communism means abolishing racism and the concept of “race.” Capitalism uses racism to super-exploit Black, Latin, Asian and indigenous workers, and to divide the entire working class.
- ★Communism means abolishing the special oppression of women— sexism—and divisive gender roles created by the class society.
- ★Communism means abolishing nations and nationalism. One international working class, one world, one Party.
- ★Communism means that the minds of millions of workers must become free from religion’s false promises, unscientific thinking and poisonous ideology. Communism will triumph when the masses of workers can use the science of dialectical materialism to understand, analyze and change the world to meet their needs and aspirations.
- ★Communism means the Party leads every aspect of society. For this to work, millions of workers — eventually everyone — must become communist organizers. Join Us!

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WHO WRITES FOR CHALLENGE?

CHALLENGE is for the working class, produced by the working class. The fact that CHALLENGE/PLP articles are not signed grows from PLP’s criticism of the cult of the individual in the former socialist Soviet Union and China. We do not want to encourage the possibility of building up a “following” around any particular individual.

While an article may be written by one person, the final version is based on collective discussion and criticism. Many times this collective discussion even precedes an individual’s writing of an article.

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Editorial

U.S. & China will make world war; workers can make revolution

Facing the ‘Thucydides Trap’...the military must step up its efforts.
—Xu Qiliang, Vice-chairman of China’s military

[China] stated that war with the United States is inevitable...When you [U.S.] send an armored brigade combat team anywhere in the world...you have made a strategic decision to fight and win
—Major General Richard Coffman of U.S. military

Imperialist rivals China and the U.S. are caught in the “Thucydides Trap,” an inevitable drive towards war when a rising power threatens to displace the established world power. Driven by their need for maximum profit and world supremacy, the capitalists are on the course toward World War III.

From signing the Iran deal to challenging the world’s currency, top-dog wannabe China marks more territory while the decaying U.S. flounders and loses allies along with its credibility. The U.S. reigned as a superpower since the end of World War II and established what they call the liberal world order, which has been in decline since the 1970s. Their dominance rests on U.S. financial and military power, its strategic control of the Middle East, and the flow of oil to Europe, Asia, and Africa. To sustain this dominance, they need to rebuild for war and foment nationalism against their arch-rival, China.

War, with working-class lives as cannon fodder, is how rulers resolve their contradictions. Progressive Labor Party calls on all workers to reject both U.S. and Chinese warmakers. Instead, the international working class must embrace their historic role of turning world war into a revolution for communism.

China’s big flex

Imperialist China is asserting its growing dominance against the U.S. by any means necessary. All areas of life have become arenas for war, including technology. China updated its “Made in China 2025,” a strategic policy to make itself the ultimate ruler in high-tech manufacturing (U.S. Department of Defense, 3/25). Former U.S. president Donald Trump’s sanctions, intensified by the current Joe Biden & Kamala Harris administration, cut China’s access to U.S.-licensed microchips, the technologies that industries, including defense, rely on (Asia Times, 3/14).

To counter this roadblock, China is spending \$90 billion in hopes of developing groundbreaking technology that will render the U.S. irrelevant (The New York Times, 3/10).

The world’s economies are increasingly forced to choose between the U.S.-led world order or China’s rapidly rising dominance. China officially expanded its imperialist influence with Asia-Pacific countries in the U.S. orbit (like South Korea, Australia, and Japan) through its RCEP trade agreement. Meanwhile, in true gangster fashion, China seeks to exacerbate tensions between the U.S. and Iran, a country of massive oil and geopolitical importance. Iran, hurt by U.S. sanctions, agreed to discounts on oil and greater “military cooperation” with China in exchange for \$400 billion investment over 25 years (Seattle Times, 3/27).

In efforts to further prepare for the Thucydides Trap, China strengthened its military systems with U.S.-rival-imperialist Russia. China’s rapidly developing military has now “achieve[d] parity with—or even exceed[ed]—the United States” in terms of its army, navy, and rockets (Congressional Research Service, 1/5).

To add insult to injury, China has been leveraging its imperialist Belt and Road Initiative (infrastructure deals with over 60 countries and two-thirds of the world population) to promote business in the yuan. Abandoning the dollar—the world’s principal reserve currency since the end of World War II— is a punch in the gut to U.S. world supremacy. The capitalist law is to compete and expand, or die.

U.S. empire’s crisis accelerates war plans

No empire falls without a fight. The botched response to the Covid-19 pandemic, along with the Trump debacle, exposed the emperor’s clothes for the whole

world to see. The U.S. rulers’ clumsy efforts to maintain dominance are met with mistrust from the Middle East, Asia, and Europe, to name a few.

Take the almost-completed Nord Stream 2. This pipeline will provide cheap Russian gas directly to Germany, under the Baltic Sea, bypassing hostile Ukraine, a slighted U.S. ally. U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken is threatening their so-called friends Germany and the European Union to reject it (Reuters, 3/28). But the war-lords whine, “[T]here is nothing...Biden and his team... can do to stop that [skepticism]. From now on, all countries, everywhere, must hedge their bets about the United States” (Foreign Affairs, March/April).

Like any predator, a superpower is most dangerous when wounded. The dominant finance wing of the U.S. ruling class, represented by Biden, will build fascism (see glossary, page 6). They seek to unify their own capitalist class for war. That’s the essence of Biden’s “Build Back Better” campaign. His cynical claim that he’s investing in workers is an attempt to win our class to the rulers’ imperialist agenda. Let’s make no mistake: reforms are part of the war effort.

U.S. capitalism—once a ruler, now a wound-licker—is incapable of coping with the international instability it faces. No wonder general Richard Coffman is desperately calling for more troops and fighting vehicles (Military Times, 3/11).

Nationalism & racism, part of U.S. arsenal

The finance capitalist wing of the U.S. ruling class has a contradiction on its hands. As they cry crocodile tears for the gutter racist attack on Asian women workers in Atlanta, the bosses still need anti-Asian racism and nationalism against their imperialist rival, China. Of course, anti-Asian racism is nothing new. A century ago, the U.S. locked Japanese families into homegrown concentration camps during World War II.

Every time the U.S. needs to prepare for war, they ratchet up their racism and they are using every opportunity to foment it. “Beijing suspended the export of face masks...at the very moment when [U.S.] needed them most” (New York Times, 3/18). Their ideological strategy seems to blame China for the U.S. Covid-19 deaths while threatening that their capitalist democracy is at stake.

So the hypocrites shed tears over the murder of 7 Asian women workers while trying to mobilize soldiers to kill *millions* of Asian workers. One Pew Research poll suggests 90 percent of the U.S. population sees China as an enemy (Yahoo News, 3/4). Stoking anti-Chinese racism feeds the flames of war. The working class must reject this with fierce internationalism.

Turn imperialist war into class war

World wars lay bare the ruthlessness of imperialists and their readiness to shed workers’ blood. That’s why we must make communist revolution and rule this world for ourselves. World War I gave birth to the Bolshevik Revolution; World War II gave rise to the Chinese Revolution. The first proletarian dictatorship in the Soviet Union, the Soviet-led fight against fascism in World War II, the Chinese Revolution, and the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, along with the courageous anti-imperialist struggles of the 1950s and 1960s, gave hope to workers everywhere. The world saw that the oppressed could break their chains.

If wars are preconditions for communist revolution, China, U.S., and other imperialists are showing the working class a historic responsibility to break through this capitalist trap.

As the next world war approaches and capitalist oppression intensifies in every corner of the earth, Progressive Labor Party can make great leaps in infusing the class struggle with communist politics. Only through a protracted struggle in this slow period can we make gains towards a communist revolution.

We can do that by fighting back and building PLP in our workplaces, schools, streets, and community organizations, with the weapons in *our* arsenal: antiracism, antisexism, and internationalism.

Come join the fight on May Day! ☘

Red presence matters

Brooklyn teachers go extra mile with antiracist commuter plan

BROOKLYN, March 29—In early March the bosses' media finally reported a year-old wave of anti-Asian violence in a serious way and the anti-racist reflexes of dedicated staff at the mostly-Asian Brooklyn Technical High School sprang into action.

The school's equity team organized a school-wide response which included devoting time in all classes to solidarity lessons and setting up travel groups from Chinese immigrant neighborhoods to the school.

Then came the horrific Atlanta shootings targeting young Asian women. Asian students shared stories of families afraid to leave the house. The week's lessons and a town hall organized by the sophomore class took on increased urgency. In a promising sign of potential class-consciousness most students who spoke up have resisted the twin poisonous ideas of anti-Black racism (since some attacks on Asian workers have been carried out by Black workers or youth) and reliance on the heightened police protection as a source of safety.

Fighting racism at Brooklyn Tech

A long-festering racist impact of New York City's worst-in-the-nation system of segregated public schooling is that the student body at the highly selective Brooklyn Technical High School is disproportionately Asian and white, about 85 percent. While 70 percent of the city student body is Black or Latin, the combined presence of Black and Latin

students in the student body at Tech hovers around 15 percent.

Across all the city's magnet high schools The Specialized High Schools Admissions Test has reproduced and worsened these racist results for years (NY Post, 3/19/20), sending the message that Black and Latin students do not belong at the city's "best" schools. But any school that reproduces such a racist lesson is not a good school.

Since 2015 Black students at Brooklyn Tech have hit back in a series of public (msnbc, 1/16/16) and in-house campaigns to expose racist bullying that is baked into school life at Tech. This reprehensible behavior, exhibited by some staff along with some students, merely reproduces the constant racist broadcast from 'liberal' NYC school bosses that the 'best' schools cannot be Black or Latin. An increasing proportion of the staff have responded to the student outcry by dedicating themselves to establishing an antiracist tone in school life.

Student's voices, including sharp criticism of faculty complicity in racism, have come to guide school life more and more. In many schools the 'equity team' is an empty vessel. The equity team at Tech has managed to carve a space for itself in the face of an ongoing campaign of administrative harassment of vocal Black and Jewish teachers. It has fought to become the home base of antiracist activity.

Results are incomplete, but in close unity with a long-established and open Proressive Labor Party (PLP) presence, multiracial unity is being strengthened in the class struggle against the NYC bosses' segregation and its disgusting racist effects. When in-person schooling returns after spring break, staff stand ready to organize commuter groups.

Next stop, May Day!

Anti-Asian violence is nothing new in the U.S. This most recent manifestation has been whipped up in the context of China-bashing trade wars, a Covid-19 blame-game and infrastructure development all designed to plant the seed of support for future war against U.S. imperialism's chief long-term rival – Chinese imperialism (see editorial, page 2). Beyond Covid-19, the warmongering suggestion that Asians living in the U.S. may be spies for the Chinese ruling class is connected by a bright line back to the fascist internment of the Japanese during World War II.

The international working class has one interest, communism, and one day to gather our forces to express our determination to get there—May Day. Show your solidarity against racist attacks and the future imperialist bloodbath the imperialists have in store for us all by joining Progressive Labor Party for May Day 2021. ☸

March down Flatbush Avenue, 1pm Saturday May 1. Evening zoom celebration at 6pm.

To end police terror, revolt!



the name of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and so many more lost to racist murder.

What we saw was the potential of a united working class to change the system. In the face of an organized, multiracial, multi-generational, and antiracist, antisexist fightback, politicians were forced to take up issues they've historically ignored. To the degree that laws or practices were changed to reduce police terror, we've experienced the limits of reform.

Communist revolution is the only solution

As the Maryland legislative session draws to a close for 2021, it looks like the only substantive change in law enforcement legislation is that the records of some officers may be made open to the public, but only if it is deemed reasonable to do so by the police department. Cops will remain in schools, police will continue to be shielded and parents will go another year without justice despite a summer of open rebellion against the racist capitalism.

The struggle against racist police terror predates even the Civil Rights movement by decades. These fightbacks are often schools for communism and sharpen the politics of the working class but fall-short as capitalist rulers continue to foster racist police brutality, intimidation, and terror to maintain their power over us.

PLP continues to bullhorn the belief that only communist revolution can put the working class in power. While many workers are still not won away from the racist and capitalist ideas that have been ingrained in us, we struggle every day to counter racist stereotypes and expose racist laws and structures.

We remain encouraged by workers taking to the streets and the extensive mutual aid and support for our neighbors during the Covid-19 pandemic. Those disillusioned with the capitalist system should consider joining PLP and build towards revolution to create a communist system for the working class, run by the working class. ☸

Continued from page 1

A militant working class can never be defeated

In response to these continued racist measures The Coalition was formed and established a set of demands to protect Black and Latin workers: abolish LEOBR; open records for cops charged with misconduct; remove armed police from schools; establish a state-wide policy to minimize force used by cops; and return the Baltimore City police department to local control.

Demands for these reforms have been largely led by the voices of mothers whose children have been killed by cops. Many participants in the march this month were also fighting for "Anton's Law"

named for a victim of police murder in which the cop's questionable records were not reviewed when he was hired on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

Over 20 bills related to these demands have been introduced by one politician or another, but predictably, virtually all were amended to make them useless, and few were even passed by the State Senate. Liberal politicians, the sneakiest wolves in sheep's clothing, posture as friends of our class. Workers have seen this betrayal repeated in state legislatures throughout the U.S.

Learning from a summer of struggle

About 15 million people, in the U.S. alone, participated in the massive protests and rebellions this past summer against police terror. Workers worldwide joined in solidarity, fighting racism in

Amid rising fascism, workers in Pakistan rally against sexism

PAKISTAN, March 8—The Progressive Labor Party (PLP) spread revolutionary communist politics while participating in the rallies on International Working Women's Day this past month in Pakistan.

This was partly because of the increasing misleadership of liberal and nongovernmental organization-led groups in the mass movement, who are disconnected from the social, political and economic conditions of working-class women. This year there were fewer women workers compared to last year. The low participation was also because of threats given by fascist religious clerics. These liberal misleaders were not interested in talking about the racism, poverty, exploitation, illiteracy, domestic violence, and special type of religious oppression against working women.

PLP, however, participated in the marches and brought radical communist slogans and speeches, exposing both the liberals and fascists as agents of the same capitalist class. We related the issues women are facing in their everyday life with capitalist greed and exploitation, calling for working class unity to destroy this capitalist system which is designed to divide and rule. PL'ers and friends also struggled to change the liberal chants and slogans into revolutionary slogans to distinguish ourselves from the liberal groups.

Working class women and men both are being pitted against each other through sexism and exploited and deprived of basic human needs. But talking against cultural injustices and sexist practices once a year is pathetic! We have to struggle constantly for a political system which meets the needs of working class women and men because it is run by them — communism.

Build working class antisexist struggle

Masses of workers in Pakistan strive for a society based on equality and justice. Poor workers are always being used by the right-wing political parties in the name of some religious sect, ethnicity and nationalism to prevent the workers from unifying against their exploitation, poverty and illiteracy. But the reality is most workers desperately want to



get rid of this and religious extremism and are open to communist ideas. So-called left parties are not capable of influencing masses of workers because of their false social analysis, poor political strategies and other internal weaknesses. These so-called left parties are misleading the working class through their incorrect ideology.

However, PLP is fighting to give communist leadership to the working class of Pakistan by taking part in many different small and big struggles. We organize for better conditions at our workplaces, better transit, health and education facilities, dignity and respect for women. But ultimately real victory can only be achieved by a constant struggle of working-class people under the red flag of the international communist Progressive Labor Party. Working class men and women both are exploited, and both must fight against the bosses to get rid of this barbaric system.

Communism vs. liberal, fascist misleaders

Women cannot achieve liberation from these conditions through feminism, which blames men for their oppression, but only through joining hands

as revolutionary communists striving to establish a communist society. Capitalist culture, not men, create these sick customs which oppress women and support and reinforce their super-exploitation.

Feminism and liberal misleaders, as a whole, work hand-in-hand with this sexist capitalist culture to prevent women from uniting with men in the working class struggle against sexism. Struggling to free the working class from sexist ideas and building communist PLP-led fightback has the potential for impact on the entire international working class.

Sharpening sexism and imperialism

It's no coincidence that openly fascist, religious sexist attacks on women are rising at the same time that liberal feminist politics are becoming more visible. Both are poisons pushed by the bosses to intensify working class exploitation as inter-imperialist rivalry sharpens between the U.S., Russia and China. China's new \$400 billion, 25-year trade deal (see editorial, page 2) with neighboring Iran has enormous significance for Pakistan through building the Chinese, imperialist-led "Pakistan-China-Iran Trilateral Cooperation." (Institute for Strategic Studies Islamabad, 2019)

Bringing the fascist rulers of Iran and Pakistan into closer political, economic and military collaboration with China will pressure Afghanistan's fascist Taliban rulers to cooperate as the U.S. withdraws, and pull the rest of Central Asia closer into China's imperialist orbit. Whether they succeed or not, Pakistan's working class is a key piece of Chinese imperialism's Belt and Road Initiative as conditions sharpen for workers.

While the U.S. bosses are busy propping up the fascist Indian bosses to contain Chinese imperialism's accelerating rise, neither imperialist power holds any hope for the workers of Pakistan or for the international working class. Neither do their fascist religious or liberal feminist politics.

The struggles we lead against sexism here to unite women and men workers, on the job and in the streets, are the key to winning communism, and the struggle continues. Happy International Working Women's Day!✊

Mexico: Justice for Victoria!

Sexist police terror part and parcel of capitalism

On March 28, in Tulum, Quintana Roo, Mexico, Victoria Salazar, a working-class woman from El Salvador was murdered by police. Victoria committed the capitalist crime of being a worker, a woman and a migrant in a system that only serves the ruling class. Capitalism uses sexism, nationalism and racism as the ideological pillars to keep the working class divided and to perpetuate its system of exploitation and oppression. Without fighting for a communist society, we will never bring down these deadly pillars.

Victoria was a worker with a visa that allowed her to reside permanently in the country for humanitarian reasons. Four police officers subdued Victoria, but one officer, Veronica N., kept her lying face down and did not release her, although she screamed that she could not breathe. Minutes later she lost consciousness and during her transfer to the Civil Protection unit she was declared dead. Her autopsy states that her death was the product of the "fracture in the upper part of the spinal column, produced by the rupture of the first and second vertebrae" but it is more accurate to declare that her death was the product of capitalism. That same day in the afternoon a group of 100 people demonstrated in front of the police facilities to protest her murder (La Jornada 03/29).

Women workers under attack!

The similarity between the murder of Victoria in Tulum and the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis is no coincidence. Under capitalism, the police serve the ruling class by terrorizing and sub-



jugating the working class to the needs of the bosses. It is also no coincidence that on the same day as Victoria's murder, the severed body of a woman, Karla, was found on Holbox Island, a tourist area in the state of Quintana Roo, where women and girls are seen as disposable sexual objects for the use of tourists and often suffer violence at the hands of partners who reproduce the sexist culture of capitalism. The fact that one of the police officers who murdered Victoria was a woman only proves that capitalist power is lethal for the working class, no matter who wields it.

In recent years, murders of women in Mexico have doubled. During 2015, 1,634 women were murdered in 22 states of the country though only 450 murders were investigated as sexist murders. In

2017, 1,583 women were murdered in 18 states and only 479 murders were investigated as sexist murders (OCNE, 2018). During 2020, exacerbated by the pandemic and lockdown measures, Mexico recorded 969 murders of women (Aristegui, 1/25) and an increase in calls to 911 to report domestic violence to more than 13 million (Infobae, 03/30). In 2021, in less than three months, 240 murders have been recorded. Of these, 67 were committed during the month of January. The vast majority of the targets of sexist violence are working class women forced into super-exploitation by capitalism.

Workers fight back!

The dozens of workers who protested on the afternoon of Victoria's murder and the thousands who will surely come out to express our rage over this murder are proof that no matter how strong the chains of capitalism appear, our class will never stop resisting and fighting for a world where workers' lives are valued over profits and borders. It is in these actions that Progressive Labor Party builds its unwavering confidence in the workers of the world. Victoria was the mother of two girls, who were left homeless and for whom the future as undocumented orphans is already written under capitalism. We join the pain and anger over the death of Victoria and we will turn that pain and anger into dedication and organization to end this criminal system. We will not allow the bosses to treat us as disposable. If under capitalism we mean nothing, for the working class and a communist future, we mean everything. ✊

Deliver communism to striking Amazon workers



Under capitalism workers' lives are expendable. Under communism profits will cease to exist and the collective health of workers will be guaranteed.

In Bessemer, Alabama 5,800 Amazon warehouse workers are voting on whether to join the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union (RWDSU). This union drive, among a largely Black workforce, has gotten the attention of the U.S. labor movement and the Democratic Party. The campaign has been publicly endorsed by Bernie Sanders, Stacey Abrams, actor Danny Glover, along with the National Football League and Major League Baseball Players Associations. Even President Joe Biden spoke about the advantage unions provide “for Black and Brown workers.” What is going on?

Amazon hired hundreds of thousands of workers during the pandemic lockdown and grossed a record \$386 billion in sales, netting more than \$22 billion in profit. Amazon owner Jeff Bezos got much richer during the pandemic while Amazon workers worked in unsafe and unhealthy conditions. Many were infected with Covid-19. Amazon has rewarded them by taking back the \$2 wage increase with unlimited unpaid time off that workers received during the height of the pandemic.

Crumbs for workers, preparation for world war

Some billionaires and their politician flunkies want to cover up the obscene exploitation, racism and inequality of capitalism. These finance capital imperialists have ruled much of the world since World War II, but now Chinese and Russian impe-

rialists are challenging their liberal world order. As they prepare for world war these Big Fascists, led by the Democratic Party, need a working class that has some minimum belief in U.S. capitalism. And they need the Big Tech billionaires to fall in line and get ready to pay up. President Joe Biden is already planning on raising taxes on millionaires and billionaires. War against China and Russia won't be cheap.

So to win some working-class support, some capitalists want to give us \$15 an hour, or a union at Amazon, or a stimulus check, or some controls on the racist cops. These are crumbs and they won't last. Capitalism will never work for the working class. It has to go. As we fight to support the Amazon workers, let's organize for workers to run the world. That's the communist future that we need.

Amazon workers take the lead

The Amazon campaign has become a flashpoint in the struggle of low-wage workers, Black and Latin workers in particular, following the fast-food “Fight for \$15” campaign. Following the mass antiracist uprising this past summer, the union drive has been linked to the fight against racism in Alabama, with its bloody racist history.

Amazon has defeated previous unionizing efforts and is waging an all-out effort here. It says its starting wage of \$15 an hour is more than double the Alabama minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour. Amazon has posted anti-union messages throughout

the warehouse, including in bathroom stalls, and uses social media to attack the union. Amazon even asked county officials to change the timing of the traffic light outside the warehouse so that union organizers would have less time to approach workers leaving the plant (NPR, 3/12).

Amazon workers outside of Alabama have also been fighting back, signing petitions for PPE and improved health and safety; striking and taking job actions for more water stations, the rehiring of fired workers and paid time off. New York City, where Amazon workers deliver 2.5 million packages a day, has seen workers fighting back in the Queens and Staten Island warehouses.

Democratic Party uses unions to control Big Tech

Bezos and his billionaire Big Tech cousins at Google, Facebook, Apple, and Microsoft are all heavy contributors to Biden and the Democrats, much more than to the Republicans (Observer.com, 11/2/20). Amazon bought ads in The New York Times, The Washington Post and other publications supporting legislation to raise the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour. But many in the Democratic Party see the need to reign in and regulate Big Tech more closely. Unionization is one way of regulating them. In addition, fresh from the victories in Georgia that helped elect ‘Jim Crow’ Joe Biden and two Democratic Senators, the Dems are using the unions as a battering ram to win Black workers to take the South away from the violently racist pro-Trump forces.

Communism means workers' power

The Progressive Labor Party's strategy for leading the working class to power has always rested on the foundation that Black workers are the key leadership force for revolution. This has led us to focus on organizing in the auto industry, healthcare, and mass transit. Amazon, with more than one million workers in the U.S., is now the single largest concentration of young Black and Latin workers. PLP needs to be there, as much for what our ideas can bring as for what we can learn and the leadership that Amazon workers can give to our movement.

Let us make this a Red Amazon Summer by introducing hundreds of Amazon workers to revolutionary communist ideas of PLP. ☸

Turkey: city workers strike, need workers' power

ISTANBUL, Turkey – On February 15, 2,300 municipal workers in the city district of Kadıköy boldly went on strike against the poverty wages offered by the local bosses. These essential workers, who have carried on throughout the pandemic, are being “rewarded” with miserable pay, strike-breakers, and a sellout of their fight.

When workers in different parts of the world seek to increase their militancy and sharpen the contradictions of the class struggle, we find ourselves attacked not only by the capitalist bosses and politicians but also by the fake-left trade union misleaders.

Striking workers in Istanbul and everywhere else need and deserve the international communist Progressive Labor Party (PLP) as the only force that can crush the bosses and their profit system and build a worker-run world.

Workers fight back, bosses sabotage the struggle

To mark the beginning of the strike, masses of workers gathered in front of the Kadiköy municipal building in the cold February air to confront the bosses over stalled union contract negotiations. Many workers aired their grievances and put forward reform demands.

A striking worker said that their demands included a wage hike, improved schedules and more of a say in decision-making. He said, “We are garbage collectors for about 360 days in a 365-day year. But when it comes to bargaining, we become ‘cleaner brothers and sisters’” (Spectre, 3/4). He said that some workers were fired for not saying “Hello” when a supervisor greeted them.

An office worker felt empowered by the strike and said that almost all workers were participating. She said that they want a free nursery for working mothers and a day off for March 8, International Working Women's Day. But she said the main demand was for a wage increase that keeps up with inflation.

Despite growing worker enthusiasm and support, the strike was abruptly called off just two days later by the central leadership of the Confederation of Progressive Trade Unions of Turkey (DISK*) General Service Union (Genel-Is) after a secret meeting with the bosses. Hundreds demonstrated in front of the municipal building saying, “We don't recognize any agreement that was signed without us” (Evrensel Daily).

The bosses falsely claimed that they offered a 38 percent wage hike, and many people began to question why the workers were rejecting such a “generous offer.” At the same time, the social-democratic Republican People Party (CHP) politicians sent scabs to help defeat the strike.

Still, many students and workers showed solidarity with the workers as they continued to hold rallies. Public workers in Maltepe, Ataehir, and Kartal also threatened to strike. In Maltepe, workers had called a strike for February 22, but the union's central leadership called it off when the Istanbul municipality sent scabs to cross the picket lines.

All of these municipalities that have attacked the workers are controlled by the CHP, the main “opposition” party to the Erdogan government (AKP). Like their U.S. labor and Democratic Party counterparts, they share much of AKP's anti-worker neoliberal policies. They are the “loyal opposition,”

loyal to the racist profit system and the bosses' dictatorship. A boss is a boss is a boss. We need to crush them all!

Battle lines sharpening fight for communist revolution

The class struggle and ruling class splits within Turkey are connected to the bosses' disagreements on how to best manage the country's growing international clout. Under the Erdogan regime, Turkey has been trying to become more of a regional power in the Middle East, sending troops into Syria and buying advanced weapons from Russia despite being a member of NATO and long-time ally of U.S. imperialism.

They were the first to point the finger at Saudi Crown Prince Mohammad Bin Salman in the gruesome murder of journalist Jamal Kashoggi inside the Saudi consulate in 2018, but this was not coming from any place of compassion for human life. Like all capitalist bosses, the Turkish ruling class are opportunistic thieves who make and break alliances as it suits their profit needs. As imperialist battle lines are sharpening, they are trying to play off both sides of conflicts between superpowers like the U.S. and China in order to advance their own interests (see CHALLENGE, 1/21).

We need a future that neither sacrifices workers up to a deadly pandemic or as fodder for imperialist war. We need true workers' power. From Istanbul to Soweto, from New York to Bogota, we need communist revolution to build a world that meets the needs of the international working class. PLP is fighting to be the Party that will lead us there. ☸

LETTERS

We encourage all CHALLENGE readers to send in letters and articles about their experiences fighting the bosses worldwide.



Fighting LA's racist housing crisis

On March 25, I attended a rally in support of homeless residents who were being “swept” and displaced from Echo Park, located in Los Angeles. The sweeps were conducted by city workers, backed up by a massive Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) presence. Hundreds of people, including neighborhood residents, protested and marched for hours to demand a stop to the sweeps and permanent housing for everyone. The LAPD penned in and arrested 182 people after they sat down in the street. Two news reporters were also charged and National Lawyers’ Guild legal observers were detained, before being released.

There are hundreds of homeless encampments across the City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County. The 2020 official Point in Time Count for LA County (likely an undercount) was 66,436. Recently, the Los Angeles Times newspaper even compared LA to the encampments described in Grapes of Wrath, the John Steinbeck novel about the great migration from the “Dust Bowl” to California in the 1930s.

Those who migrated in the 1930s were mainly white tenant farmers and sharecroppers from the South, thrown off their lands when their owners’ profits were hit after a years-long drought that resulted in massive crop failures. In contrast, today’s houseless population in LA County is overwhelmingly Black and Latin. Homelessness here has exploded, in the wake of mass racist unemployment caused by shutdowns of hundreds of factories and other workplaces over the decades, due to an overproduction crisis that sunk the bosses’ profits. This was compounded by skyrocketing rents due to gentrification, and the huge drop in workers’ wages during the pandemic.

LA politicians are doing the bosses’ dirty work, claiming that Echo Park and other encampments are unsafe and unhealthy. But so far, their plan to end homelessness with “Project Room-key” (placing houseless temporarily in hotel rooms) has been a disaster for the working class. Homeless residents are rightly suspicious that the politician’s promises will turn out to be hollow.

The scene at Echo Park was surreal, with five LAPD helicopters circling and diving through the area and hundreds of riot cops at all park entrances blocking any of the protesters from joining with their houseless brothers and sisters. The rally was apparently led by Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) and Streetwatch LA. DSA promoted non-violence, but the young, overwhelmingly white workers responded favorably to a Black homeless speaker who called for multi-racial unity and militant fight-back.

People also responded favorably to CHALLENGE newspaper. I distributed 40 copies of the issue with the frontpage article about our campaign here against racist gentrification. People were open to seeing the connection between evicted homeowners and tenants; those threatened with eviction; and the homeless fighting for permanent housing. Only a system that abolishes the commodification of basic human needs like housing can end this plague on our class. That system is communism.

★★★★★

Capitalism robs workers of clean water

Water. Shouldn’t clean water be available to all workers? Under capitalism, it is being stolen, sold, and traded and the working class is suffering. Under communism, ensuring clean water for the international working class would be common sense.

Recently, I was told that the water fountains at the local schools have been shut off because of Covid-19. Health offi-

cials rightly don’t want multiple people removing their masks to drink from public water fountains. Students will have to bring their own water. This adds insult to injury in neighborhoods like the one in which I teach where many families can’t afford their rent, never mind extras like clean drinking water. My principal is going to use an already strapped local school budget to buy bottled water for students who don’t have it. A domino inequity effect will ensue: local schools with small budgets like this one will buy drinking water and forgo other extras while schools in well-off neighborhoods with deeper pockets won’t think twice—their students will have clean water available and will purchase the extras my students will have to forgo.

Inequality in educational resources is grotesque. In my school district of 205 schools, five billionaires and 3,200 millionaires (USD) live – these capitalists don’t intend to pay for the water! Racism is plain to see. The families with the lowest incomes are Black, Latin and Asian.

The issue of clean drinking water for the working class should be on the forefront of everyone’s mind - and not just because of Covid-19. One in three people on the planet do not have access to clean drinking water (WHO, 2019).

The capitalists pretend to care. The United Nations passed a meaningless resolution, “declaring water and sanitation to be a basic human right” in 2010.

In San Cristóbal, Mexico, local workers depend on the Coca-Cola bottling company for jobs. The same company has a permit (2018) to extract 300,000 gallons of water to make their sugary, diabetes-inducing drink yet their workers have no safe sources of drinking water. On average, workers and their families are consuming two liters of sugary drinks a day. That’s just one example.

Wall Street started trading water on the stock market in 2020 like they do for crude oil, soybeans, and corn (Yale Environment 360, 12/2020, <https://e360.yale.edu/>). The capitalists are betting on the future price of water! Their interest in clean water is only so they can profit. Forget the platitudes of the World Health Organization and the UN. Workers’ needs will not be met without communism.



★★★★★

Addition to ‘Red Army Defeated Fascists’

"The hopes of civilization rest upon the worthy banners of the courageous Red Army." The CHALLENGE article "Red Army Defeated Fascists" (2/15) was right on!

With all the lies spread by the world’s ruling classes about the U.S. and its allies winning World War II, and about the Bolshevik Revolution, I would add the following: the capitalists were fearful that the Russian working class that seized power in 1917 in the fledgling Soviet Union set an example for the international working class which was why the armies of 17 capitalist countries invaded the workers’ state from 1917 to 1925. They were repelled. Some 4.5 million workers died in that bosses’ invasion—only 18,000 in the Revolution itself. That defeat of Western armies ended British imperialist Winston Churchill’s dream of "strangling the baby in the cradle," referring to the Bolsheviks.

Actually numerous Western historians agreed that the Red Army’s smashing of six Nazi armies at the Battle of Stalingrad was the turning point of World War II. That fact was endorsed by no less than the U.S. Pacific Commander Douglas MacArthur. His statement to the Associated Press is worth repeating: "The hopes of civilization rest upon the worthy banners of the courageous Red Army." Their heroic "resistance to the heaviest blows of a hitherto undefeated enemy" is "The greatest military achievement of all time."

The solidarity of U.S. workers should also be noted: West Coast longshoremen refused to load ships with military supplies headed for the American Expeditionary Force which had invaded Siberia.

★★★★★

Glossary

Communist political terms

Fascism

Capitalism’s response to a crisis of their system, when the bosses can no longer sustain the charade of liberal democracy and resort to more direct control and state terror instead. Fascism is marked by the ruling capitalists disciplining their own ranks to serve the urgent needs of the capitalist state and weather the crisis. To defend their system from internal and external threats, they use all the means available in their state apparatus, including violence. To build unity within their class and loyalty from workers, they rely on nationalist politics and calls for sacrifice. Their strategy is to mislead the working class to kill our working class sisters and brothers in the next inter-imperialist war.

Big Fascists

The Big Fascists are the dominant finance capitalist faction of the U.S. ruling class. They represent the wealthiest and most powerful bosses in the U.S., including multinational banks like Chase and Citibank, multinational oil companies like ExxonMobil, the big automakers, Boeing, Amazon, and the major media companies. As the dominant grouping since World War II, the Big Fascists were the architects of the liberal world order with the U.S. bosses on top. Their dominance rests on U.S. financial and military power and its strategic control of the Middle East and the flow of oil to Europe, Asia, and Africa. To sustain this dominance, they need to rebuild a huge, multiracial military for inter-imperialist war, most likely with China.

Small Fascists

The Small Fascists are a group of domestically oriented U.S. capitalists who are challenging the Big Fascists over the direction of U.S. imperialism. Since their interests are less tied to controlling the flow of oil, they are against heavy taxation to keep troops in the Middle East and in general oppose costly military bases and invasions. They’re willing to rely on a smaller, whiter army, backed by nuclear weapons and the Air Force. They have used open racism to build a political following.



Imperialist rivalry fuels global vaccine apartheid

As of March 30, over 60 countries had not received a single dose of vaccine, and many are not on track to be fully vaccinated before 2024 (New York Times, 3/30). Even as thousands of workers die daily from coronavirus, capitalism sees the vaccine as another vehicle for racist profits and a weapon in inter-imperialist rivalry between the U.S. and Chinese imperialists.

In wealthy countries, vaccine apartheid is apparent. The U.S. has vaccinated white people at 2.5 times the rate for Latin and 2 times that of Black workers (KFF.org, 3/17). Israel has fully vaccinated over 50 percent of the Jewish population and is denying vaccines to the 4.5 million Palestinians under its military occupation. Capitalism will always see the lives of the working class as expendable. We must fight for communist revolution to build a society that serves the needs of the working class.

Vaccines for profit let workers die

UNICEF estimates that the world has the capacity to produce up to 20 billion doses of vaccine, and half of this capacity is in poorer countries. However, new vaccines are protected by patent laws that prevent manufacturing of the available vaccines without the permission of the pharmaceutical companies that own the patents (The Conversation, 2/18). Although there is worldwide pressure to suspend these intellectual property barriers, five wealthy countries, including the U.S. and Britain, have refused to do so. They are determined to guarantee the profits of big pharma, despite the fact that vaccine makers received about \$20 billion dollars in public support.

“Residents of wealthy and middle-income countries have received about 90 percent of the nearly 400 million vaccines delivered so far. Under current projections, many of the rest [of the countries] will have to wait years” (NY Times, 3/21). Pfizer is de-

manding unprecedented liability protection from foreign countries in order to sell them vaccines, demanding it not be held responsible for rare adverse effects or for its own acts of negligence, fraud or malice. They are requiring that South American bosses put up huge assets, such as federal bank reserves, embassy buildings and military bases, as insurance against the cost of any future legal cases.

Although nine countries have been forced to agree to this sort of deal, five—Uruguay, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Cuba—have yet to receive a single dose of a foreign vaccine (nakedcapitalism.com, 3/21).



Vaccines become the new blood money

China's bosses are winning the vaccine war as they have become the main sources of vaccines to Africa, Asia and South America, increasing their ever-growing imperialist influence in these areas. They are forcing the smaller capitalists to do their bidding along the way. The Brazilian ruling class was forced to accept the Chinese bosses Huawei as their 5G developer in order to get vaccines and the working class in Paraguay has been denied the vaccine even as deaths rise because the Paraguayan bosses are in bed with the Taiwanese capitalists.

China is extorting poor countries as workers die, while the U.S. ruling class is battling itself over how to respond. Torn between outright greed and giving up some of their profits to keep up with the Chinese imperialists, the U.S. ruling class has mostly been paralyzed. Though, in a horrifically racist use of the vaccine, Joe Biden offered 1.5 million doses to the Mexican ruling class in exchange for the Mexican bosses sending troops to the border with Guatemala to stop workers from Central America headed to the U.S. (NY Times, 3/18). The perversion of the vaccine being used to pay for troops to attack workers risking their lives to get poverty wage jobs in the U.S. is a damning example of the utter inability of capitalism to serve the needs of our class.

In a communist world, vaccines would be produced, manufactured and distributed collaboratively by the world's scientists and factories. There would also be far fewer pandemics if production and mining were designed to prevent infection by wild viruses. Workers' health would be a priority, so that we would also be better able to survive those infectious illnesses that do occur. Only such a revolutionary transition of society with the death of the profit motive can truly protect the working class.✱



RED EYE ON THE NEWS . . .

Abbreviations

NYT= New York Times
GW=Gaurdian Weekly

Worst unemployment ever, hitting Black workers hardest

NYT, 3/19 — ...A year after the pandemic jolted the economy... unemployment...remain[s] stubbornly, shockingly high — higher on a weekly basis than any previous recession....

...Initial weekly claims...have been stuck at just above one million since last fall....

New evidence from California may offer a partial explanation.... Nearly 80 percent of the unemployment claims...were from people who had been laid off earlier in the pandemic, gotten back to work, and then been laid off again....The ups and downs of the pandemic...have left many workers stuck in a sort of limbo....

“This shows the oscillation of employed, unemployed, employed, unemployed — people cycling back into the system,” said...policy director of Employ America.... “We did not see that in any previous recession.”

...Extended periods of unemployment can leave workers at a permanent disadvantage.... There is little precedent for a period of such prolonged instability....Nearly 90 percent of Black workers in the state have claimed unemployed benefits at some point....Younger and less-educated workers have been hit especially hard.

Those totals include filings...which covers people left out of the regular unemployment system, a group that disproportionately includes Black workers....

“That degree of inequality is mind-blowing,” said Til von Wachter of UCLA....

“We have solidly shifted into a world where a large-scale problem of long-term unemployment is now a reality...” Black workers, older workers, women and those with less education have been more likely to end up out of work for extended periods....Benefits alone won't prevent the damage that prolonged joblessness can do to a worker's ca-

reer and mental and physical health....

...The pace of the recovery...depends on a factor beyond the scope of normal economic analysis.

Jewish women partisans' solution for Nazis: death

NYT, 3/21 — In 1943, Niuta Teitelbaum strolled into a Gestapo apartment...in central Warsaw and faced three Nazis. A 24-year-old Jewish woman,... was likely now dressed in her characteristic guise as a Polish farm girl with a kerchief tied around her braided blond hair.

She blushed, smiled meekly and then pulled out a gun and shot each one. Two were killed, one wounded. Niuta, however, wasn't satisfied. She found a physician's coat, entered the hospital where the injured man was being treated, and killed both the Nazi and the police officer who had been guarding him.

“Little Wanda With the Braids,” as she was nicknamed on every Gestapo most-wanted list, was one of many young Jewish women who, with supreme cunning and daring, fought the Nazis in Poland.

British imperialists' slave empire spawned its current racism

Guardian, 2/12 — In the lengthy catalogue of British imperial atrocities....thousands were massacred...by machine guns....killing people as a blood sport....and allows Britons to fantasize Black and brown people as aliens....

Millions...fought for Britain in the second world, war, 200,000 Indian soldiers were killed, wounded or captured while serving in allied campaigns....

...The empire was “one of the biggest white supremacist enterprises” in history and it still corrupts British society....

Padraic Scanlon's...“Slave Empire: How Slavery Built Modern Britain [is] a detailed exposition of how Britain profited from slavery for 200 years and then used its abolition to justify another century or more of imperial violence and capitalist exploitation....

What's more, ending slavery didn't stop the gigantic system of trade and exploitation it had spawned. On the contrary, it was meant to enhance it. The British government paid colossal sums to compensate slave owners — but nothing to enslaved people. Instead, the law abolishing slavery forced them to continue to labor for years on plantations as unpaid “apprentices.”

...Nineteenth century British capitalists continued to invest heavily in slaveholding enterprises overseas. They funded and insured many of the banks, railroads, steamships and plantations of the American south. Britain's cotton industry grew into its largest and most valuable industrial sector by processing much of the raw material produced by America's slaves....In almost every respect, the free trade empire was less a repudiation than continuation of the empire of slavery.

Amazon nets trillions; workers on 12-hour shifts fear Covid-19

NYT, 3/11 — Jeff Bezos...[has] propelled Amazon's rise...to the global behemoth it is today....

...Amazon's fortunes have soared during the pandemic....[while] employees can walk up to 15 miles during a single shift and vending machines dispense free painkillers....The jobs Amazon has created don't pay much....[still] the company also exacerbates economic concentration, funneling money into wealthier parts of the country....[while] in a Denver suburb, Hector Torres...fears he could bring home the coronavirus from his 12-hour shifts at an Amazon warehouse; he learns about infected colleagues not from the company but from other workers.

...A family lives in a homeless shelter in Dayton, Ohio, while the father has a job making cardboard boxes for \$10 an hour — about the same wage...earning a decade earlier in a pizza shop.

All the while, Amazon has flourished....[as has] Bezos [in his] 27,000-square-foot mansion in Washington, D.C....with its many bathrooms (25). Living rooms (five) an astounding number of doors (191)....In 2013, Bezos bought the Washington Post...that also included assiduous lobbying to get out of paying taxes.

IWWD Panel

Communism means liberation from sexism

The following articles cover some topics discussed at the International Working Women's Day celebration. To view, go to www.crowdcast.io/e/por-qu-tenemos-que

March 28 – Dozens of Progressive Labor Party (PLP) members and friends gathered virtually today for a bilingual panel celebrating the International Working Women's Day and communist anti-sexism. Across at least four countries, workers shared personal experiences, reflected on historical movements, and discussed political theory as key pillars in advancing the fight against capitalism's sexist culture and exploitation.

Sexism is one of the most powerful tools in the bosses' arsenal to divide and attack our class. Due to their experience against capitalism's sexist and racist attacks, we have throughout our history fought to have women workers—particularly Black, Latin, and Asian women workers—give communist leadership in the Party and in the class struggle.

The fight against sexism necessitates workers of all races, genders, ages, and backgrounds unite in an international struggle to eradicate it materially and ideologically through revolution.

Events like this panel are essential in growing our revolutionary unity and struggle. We learn to reject the bosses' poisonous ideas within the mass movement and embrace the Party as the weapon through which we will create an antisexist, antiracist world.

Abolish the foundation of sexism: class society

The sexist organization of advanced capitalist society has had a profoundly negative impact on the way workers and others think about themselves in relation to the social system. On the one hand, housework and childcare were necessary for the reproduction of the workforce; that is, it is relevant to take care of the daily needs of workers and raise the next generation of workers.

But these activities do not produce surplus value for the bosses, so, in capitalist terms, they are not "productive labor", since capitalists consider "productive" only labor that produces profit for them. As such, their essential nature to our survival is constantly degraded under this system.

Under a communist society, having abolished production based on profit, the entire working class together would work to share labor inside and outside of the home. The distinctions between domestic work and all other labor will be eliminated and will be performed collectively. The responsibility to provide the needs of our class will be the responsibility of *all* workers.

In sharp contrast to dehumanizing capitalist culture, workers would use media such as movies, music, and art, along with meetings and other activities to promote antisexist imagery that stresses equality among all workers.

A powerful struggle will continue after we smash the bosses and seize state power to win the entire working class away from sexist ideologies and practices.

Capitalist identity politics fail workers

Maintaining aspects of sexism in a society where we are trying to destroy capitalism would be like maintaining racial segregation, or separate nations, or wages. It would mean keeping elements of capitalism, which would create the basis for its restoration. So, it is important that we understand the particularities of sexism in today's capitalist society. Fighting against these particularities, our movement creates the foundation to destroy sexism once we take power.

Theories of identity politics are bourgeois political debates, the possibility of struggle is bourgeois. Identity politics reproduces the appearance of an alienated individual under capitalism; hence its struggle takes the form of equality of oppression between groups or individuals.

Identity politics is the classic nationalism wrapped in a new bow. We will fight for a classless, collective society that allows us to express ourselves freely in all our multifaceted activities.

An antisexist world worth fighting for

The necessity to overthrow this sexist, racist capitalist system becomes more urgent by the minute. Throughout the pandemic, it is women workers who have been among the hardest hit within our class.

According to the bosses' own statistics, official women's unemployment in the U.S. stood at 6.3 percent, rising to 8.4 percent for Black women workers, 9.1 percent for Latin, and 11.4 percent for women workers with disabilities (ABC 7, 1/20).

In Latin American countries, domestic violence against women workers has skyrocketed, increasing by 94 percent in Colombia in the first months of lockdown (nautilus.com).

In contrast to feminism, we don't just want a select few women to advance to get a "seat at the table" and become exploiters and apologists of an inherently sexist system. We want to smash the "table" entirely, and liberate the entire international working class through revolution.

International, multiracial, and anti-sexist panels and events are a representation of the egalitarian communist world we are fighting for. Onward to revolution with PLP!✳

**CAPITALISM
BREEDS SEXISM
RACISM
& IMPERIALISM!**



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